

REMARKS

A. Status of Claims

Claims 1-93, 97, 100-105 and 117 are cancelled. Claims 94-96, 106-115, 123-132, 138-140 and 144-149 are withdrawn. Claims 98, 99, 116, 118-119, 121, 133, 141 and 150 have been amended. Claims 98, 99, 116, 118-122, 133-137, 141-143 and 150 are under examination. Claim 151 has been added as a new claim.

B. Amendments

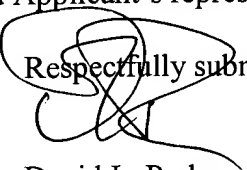
Claim 121, indicated in the subject Answer to be allowable if placed into independent form, has been made an independent claim, and is now the base claim. Moreover, all of the remaining claims now under active examination are now directly or indirectly pending from claim 121. Thus, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

C. Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully request that the withdrawn claims now be re-joined and examined. Applicants would agree to make the appropriate amendments to make the currently withdrawn claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 121 as well. If the Examiner agrees with this course of action he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned representative.

D. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of this case in view of the above. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Applicant's representative at (512)-536-3055.


Respectfully submitted,

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